

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

***I. Status of the claims***

Claim 18 is amended, claims 24 and 26 are canceled and claims 66-72 are added with this amendment. Claims 18-23, 25, and 66-72 are pending with this amendment.

***II. Support for the amendment***

Support for the amendments can be found in the specification and claims as originally filed. The amendment to claim 18 merely incorporates the subject matter of now canceled claim 26. New claim 66 represents a combination of the subject matter of claims 18 and 24 before this amendment. New claims 67-72 are identical to claims 19-23 and 25, respectively, but depend from claim 66. No new matter is added.

***III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph***

Claims 18-23 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly not enabled for all fusion proteins comprising SEQ ID NO:22. The Examiner, however, acknowledged that if claims 24 and 26 were rewritten in independent form, they would be allowable. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants strongly object to the Examiner's assertion that generation of any and all fusion proteins comprising SEQ ID NO:22 are not enabled. However, to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended the claims to incorporate the subject matter of claims 24 and 26 into independent claims 66 and 18, respectively, in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. All other claims now depend from claims 18 and 66. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Appl. No. 09/709,774  
Amdt. dated March 30, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of January 10, 2005

PATENT

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew E. Hinsch  
Reg. No. 47,651

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 415-576-0200  
Fax: 415-576-0300  
Attachments  
MEH:meh  
60455690 v1